

ABSTRACT

A recording medium enabling type determination and writing possibility determination for various types of disks. Opening and closing means for opening and closing a detection hole of a cartridge forms a plane substantially horizontal level with a reference plane of the cartridge at a position of the detection hole when the detection hole is in a closed state. The cartridge has at least a first detection hole and a second detection hole formed therein. The second detection hole (H1) is opened and closed by the opening and closing means, and the first detection hole (H0) is in an open state at all times. A disk drive apparatus or a disk determining method determines, together with a disk type, determining information contents (for example writing possibility) based on one or a plurality of detection holes formed in the cartridge, on the basis of an open/closed state of the detection hole and a result of the disk type using a signal based on reflected light from the loaded recording medium.